Proposed Rule Change – Senator Steve Erdman

Rule 7, Section 11. Motions and Amendments for Dilatory Purposes. Motions and amendment shall not be filed for dilatory purposes. If more than two amendments and/or motions are offered to a bill or resolution ~~the principal introducer of the bill or resolution may raise a point of order stating that he or she believes the amendments and or motions are being used for dilatory purposes. If, in the opinion of the Speaker, the motions and or amendments are not dilatory, debate on the pending measure shall continue. If the Speaker has reason to believe that one or more of the amendments and/or motions are dilatory, the Speaker shall consult with the principal introducer of the original bill or resolution and the principal introducers of the amendments and/or motions in an attempt to reach an accord as to which amendments and/or motions should be considered by the Legislature. For that purpose, the Speaker may temporarily remove the entire bill or resolution from the agenda. After consultation, the Speaker shall forthwith decide which, if any, amendments and/or motions are dilatory and shall rule such amendments and/or motions out of order. A motion to overrule the chair on any decision made pursuant to this section is not in order except that a ruling of the chair may be challenged by an introducer of amendments and /or motions ruled to be dilatory in which instance the challenge shall be to all amendments and/or motions included in the Speaker's ruling. The consultation and the Speaker's ruling subsequent to consultation provided for in this section, shall in no case result in a bill or resolution being removed from the agenda for more than the current legislative day. Any amendment and /or motion ruled out of order by the Speaker shall not in any form, version, or substance be in order if again offered by any member at the same stage of debate. A motion to overrule the chair after a ruling is out of order.~~ which are believed to be used to delay progress on the debate, the principal introducer of the bill or resolution or the chair of the committee if the bill is a committee bill may file a motion to suspend for dilatory purposes, stating that he or she believes the motions are being used for dilatory purposes. The motion to suspend for dilatory purposes shall be filed in writing with the Clerk and shall be recognized by the presiding officer when verified by a show of ten hands or more. Each motion and/or amendment charged with being dilatory shall be named and/or identified in the motion along with the name(s) of the Senators filing such motions and/or amendments.

(2) The presiding officer shall recognize the Speaker and/or the principal introducer of the bill or resolution or the committee chair if the bill is a committee bill for five minutes each to explain why the motion(s) and/or amendment(s) are of a dilatory nature. The presiding officer shall then recognize the Senator or Senators filing the motion(s) and/or amendment(s) for five minutes each to explain why such motions and/or amendments are not of a dilatory nature. The motion to suspend for dilatory purposes is a non-debatable motion and no Senator may yield time to another Senator.

(3) Without any further debate, the presiding officer shall ask, "Are the motions or amendments of a dilatory nature?" and a record machine vote shall be taken among the members present.

(4) If a three-fifths majority of the members present decide by way of a record machine vote that the motion(s) and/or amendment(s) are of a dilatory nature, the motion(s) and/or amendment(s) shall be withdrawn and the Senator or Senators who filed such motion(s) and/or amendment(s) shall be precluded from filing any further motion(s) and/or amendment(s) to the bill or resolution under consideration until the bill or resolution advances to the next stage of debate.

(5) Once a motion or amendment has been declared dilatory by way of a successful vote of the Legislature, a motion to reconsider shall be out of order.